THE CHRONICLE

Week of April 14, 2008 | Purdue University Calumet | http://www.pucchronicle.com

Chill at a Hookah lounge

Check out the Police Blotter

Festive spring word search

Club baseball's new coach

'A year with my dysfunctional family'

Chronicles of a PUC SOLDIER

Casey Brandon
Staff Writer

Casey Brandon is sophomore history major serving a year-long tour in Iraq for Army National Guard. Follow Casey's articles in future editons of The Chronicle.

Soon, my family will be no more. My tour is coming to an end and my army family will be seperating back to our respective places and lives.

We've moved out of our two-man rooms and are now living in tents again. So it's come full circle. I was in a tent for three months when I first got in Iraq, and am now back in the same tents with less than a month to go.

I'm counting down days at this point.

Laying on my cot, I look to my left and right to see guys I've spent the last year with laying on their own less than two feet away. It's been quite interesting interacting with these people for the past 365 days.

Some of these guys I would probably never hang out with back home. Some of them I wouldn't care to ever see again. A few have become some of my best friends.

Since the beginning, I've known a few who made up my section. They drilled at my armory, and I saw them at least once a month. Others were added as fillers from other units in Indiana.

We have become quite the dysfunctional family.

Living with one another for a year, we've become as close if not closer than with our own siblings back home. We've learned the best and worst about each other through countless situations.

I've had experiences with each of them that I probably wouldn't get any other way or place.

Like Christmas, we had a barbeque at night in 35 degree weather. Most of us were out there in Santa hats, having a good time and commiserating together about being away from our families and life in Iraq.

Or when sharing a space the size of a one-room apartment at Ft. Dix in New Jersey with about 20 other guys with all our gear. Somehow we made it work because we had to.

Or whenever we would make a particular convoy run, we got to our destination, formed a circle and start going at it. We were trying to take care of grudges, blow off steam, or just have plain combat boredom, courtesy of the ground fighting tactics the army teaches us.

Or how I knew whenever the power went some nights, a glow stick war would probably ensue. People would cut the ends off and throw the glowing chemicals on each other and anything else we could find.

I know on any particular day I can find someone to share a joke, complain to, or just plain sit and stare at a wall with.

They know things about me nobody other than my own family and some things no one else knows.

Each of us has had our trials and we're able to rely on each other to get us through.

I've shared a lot of laughs, been angry enough to choke some one, scared beyond belief and basically learned a lot about myself and other people in a way most people don't get to experience.

It's been quite a year.

Photo provided

Troops moved back into tents after living in two-man rooms for a few months.

Not an average tapdance

Chronicle photo by Derek Newell

The Irish Culture Fest, held on Saturday, gave students and faculty a chance to experience Irish heritage. The three hour event featured dance performances by the Mayer Dancers and the Dennehy Dancers.

Local rabbi doubles as university instructor

Brian Bultema
Senior Staff Writer

When Rabbi Michael Stevens came to Northwest Indiana in 1987, he had no intentions of teaching in the university setting. He came from Allentown, Pa. to lead a small Jewish congregation in Hammond that would soon become the Temple Beth-El in Munster.

But in 1995 Stevens met Saul Lerner, a PUC history professor, at a local Jewish congregational gathering.

Stevens said he apparently voiced mild interest in possibly teaching a class upon hearing Lerner's occupation. He said he did not expect anything to materialize.

"I don't even remember the specific conversation," Stevens said.

Lerner recalled the conversation months later when Dennis Barbour, the department head of the Department of English and Philosophy, said the department desperately needed another instructor to teach a basic humanities course.

"His name occurred to me at that instant," Lerner said. "I knew he had an extensive musical background and obviously he knew something about philosophy."

In August 1996, Stevens received a call. It was from Barbour.

Barbour asked Stevens if he would be interested to teach a philosophy class relating to art, literature and music beginning in less than two weeks.

Stevens agreed and received the course textbook one day before the class began.

"I spent the whole time there trying to keep up with the students," Stevens said.

See Rabbi Page 3

ADMINISTRATIVE
update

Purdue Calumet is preparing to implement a new strategic plan.

Why should students be interested?

The simple answer is that a thoughtful, well-executed Purdue Calumet strategic plan affects positively the quality of education our students receive.

Students and society benefit

A strategic plan rich in outcome goals and achievement strategies serves the needs of students and society.

A focused, structured, measureable and manageable strategic plan, embraced by administration, faculty and students, assures that Purdue Calumet is intent on delivering the best and most meaningful education possible. Such a plan also purposefully directs our efforts as a resource for helping improve our regional society.

Our previous campus strategic plan cycle ended last year with significant progress made on each of four goals, but with unfinished business remaining.

5 GOALS

In response, the proposed Purdue Calumet five-year strategic plan for 2008-13, which goes before the Purdue Board of Trustees later this spring for approval, focuses on the following five goals:

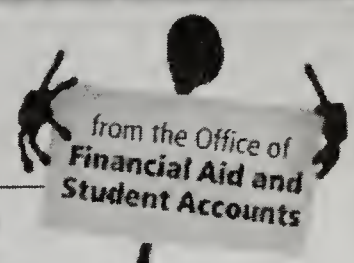
- **Goal 1:** Foster Engaged Learning – by increasing opportunities for students to apply their education in ways that enhance themselves and society.
- **Goal 2:** Prepare an Educated Workforce and Citizenry for our Region – by investing in the vitality of our communities through the quality of graduates and citizens we help produce and the resources, expertise and support we provide.
- **Goal 3:** Improve Student Success – by continuing our previous strategic plan efforts to attract, motivate, retain and graduate more students.
- **Goal 4:** Increase Support for Faculty and Staff Excellence – by providing necessary resources and opportunities for enabling a full range of student learning experiences.
- **Goal 5:** Develop a Vibrant Campus Community – by providing opportunities and resources necessary to attract and retain diverse students, faculty and staff.

Ultimately, specific strategies for attaining each goal will be developed, implemented, monitored and assessed. Our efforts to achieve each goal through this thoughtful, visionary, reflective and structured strategic planning process will strengthen the education our students receive, improve our campus and enrich our region.

For more details about our proposed strategic plan, you are invited to review our plan document at

www.calumet.purdue.edu/chancellor/strategic-plan-final_040808.doc

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Spring 08 - Students with outstanding spring 2008 balances are encouraged to access PCSTAR to see if documents are needed to complete their financial aid file.

The deadline to request a student loan for the current 2007-08 academic year is Friday, May 2, 4:30 p.m.

Summer 08 - Award letters to eligible students will be sent beginning the week of April 14.

Fall 08 - To be considered for a Purdue Calumet scholarship students must submit a Scholarship Interest Questionnaire. Forms are available at the Enrollment Services Center, Lawshe 130, or by accessing...

www.calumet.purdue.edu/finaid/SCHOLINT 0808.pdf

Students who have not yet done so should file as soon as possible their completed FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the 2008-09 aid year at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

What's Going On?

A Look Around...

Life Sciences seminar

The Department of Biological Sciences will be holding a Life Sciences Seminar about "Partial agonists for EbrB family receptors: A new paradigm for cancer chemotherapy?"

Professor David Riese will speak during this seminar on Friday, April 18 1 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. Gyte 108.

Stark-Tinkham Awards ceremony

The Stark-Tinkham Awards Committee invites all members of the campus community to attend the 35th Annual Stark-Tinkham Writing Awards ceremony at The Center on April 17 at 7 p.m.

The keynote address will be delivered by Jared Carter, a nationally recognized poet and essayist.

Come out and celebrate the achievements of students. For more information, contact Colin Fewer at 989-2943.

Intramural swimming next week

Intramural Swimming will be Friday, April 25 at 6 p.m. at Hammond YWMCA. Cost is free. Entry deadline is April 23.

Events include 50 and 100 yard free style and 50 yard backstroke and breaststroke.

For more information or to register for any of these events, stop by the REC Center. When you register, please indicate which events you will be entering.

KidPins available

The Riley Child Center is currently selling KidPin, which supports Advocates For Children and Youth and PUC's own Riley Child Center.

Girl, boy and baby pins are available for purchase. Please make checks payable to Purdue University Calumet.

To order pins, please contact Tamra Bottomlee or Cindy Best via email. They can also be picked out in person at the care center.

The sale begins ends April 30. For more information, please call 989-2343.

Get registered to vote

Los Latinos will be doing a voter registration drive throughout the semester. Tables will be available in the CLO and SUL concourses once a week to get students registered to vote.

For more information, e-mail Raquel Perez at perezr5@calumet.purdue.edu.

New organization seeks members

Purdue Paranormal Investigation is looking for open-minded individuals for the new club.

Members get to investigate haunted places and look answers to the unexplained. For more information, come to the meeting Wednesday, April 16 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in SUL 321.

For more information, contact Kyle Ratkovich at purdueparanormal@gmail.com.

Political paper contest to be held

Pi Sigma Alpha received a grant from the national organization to sponsor a contest for the best paper in political science.

For more information, contract Frank Colucci at coluccif@calumet.purdue.edu.

Field Biology course

Field Biology course is a one-week outdoor camping course in Big Falls, Wisc. open to all non-biology majors. This course also meets a general education laboratory science requirement.

Topics covered include basic ecological and evolutionary principles and environmental ethics.

Students will camp in tents. Space is limited for registration and will be accepted on a first-come-first served basis. A field trip fee of $435 will be charged in addition to the regular course and laboratory fee.

For more information, contact Creighton at creighto@calumet.purdue.edu.

Submitting Briefs

Anyone interested in publicizing events, organizations, clubs or departments in "What's Going On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit submissions to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu or campus cc: mail - Chronicle or to the newsroom located in the Student Union and Library building, room 344H.

THE CHRONICLE

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ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS

Rabbi

continued from page 1

Stevens continued to teach the class every semester while adjusting to his often chaotic role as a Rabbi in NWI. The congregation sold their building in Hammond and began meeting in an elementary school gymnasium.

Then the principal at the elementary school informed Stevens they needed the space back within a few months. The congregation began to raise funds and finally opened their own building— the Temple Beth-El in Munster in 1999.

Despite being taxed by two occupations, Stevens inquired Barbour about teaching a literature course on the Old Testament.

Barbour said he had no qualms about it and he began instructing the course the next year.

"He was clearly well qualified to teach the course," Barbour said. "His divinity degree is equivalent to an advanced degree in literature."

Barbour said the course was popular immediately.

"Many of our students at PUC have a strong interest in the Bible, regardless of their backgrounds," Barbour said. "We have a broad spectrum of interests, some of which are Catholic, Jewish, Protestant and even atheist in nature."

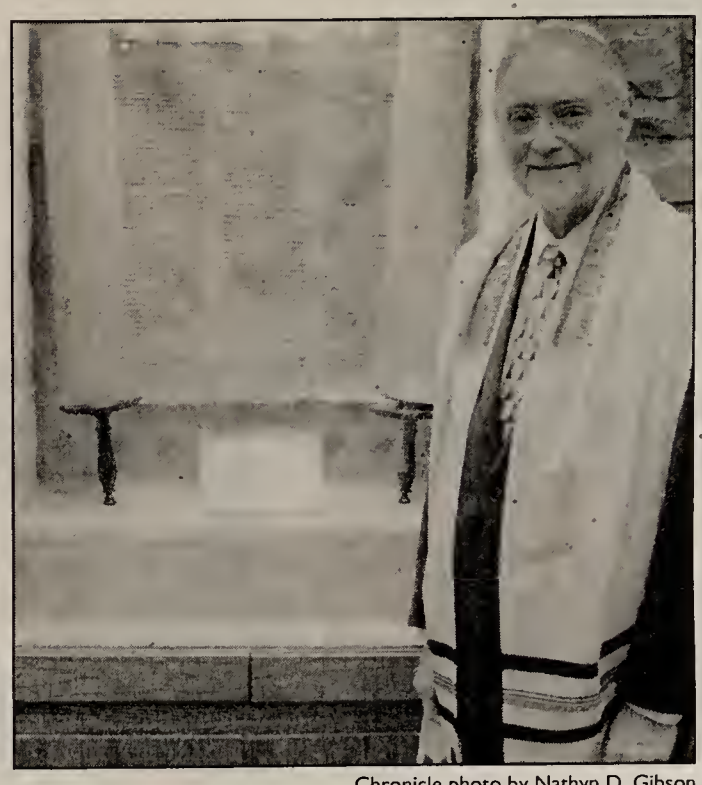
Barbour and Lerner agree Stevens is one of the most respected and recognizable faculty members at PUC.

After taking up the teaching role at PUC, Stevens said his work in the classroom affected his work at the temple. By communicating the Bible to PUC students, Stevens said communication with those in his congregation has gotten easier.

His emphasize on interfaith events and forums has also increased as a result of teaching at PUC. He currently runs the Temple Beth-El Clergy Institute, a group of pastors, priests and rabbis, who attempt to increase dialogue along denominational and religious lines.

He said the reason why he enjoys being so involved is the investment he makes every day in students, congregational members and clergy.

"I find both extremely challenging and rewarding," Stevens said."I wish I had more time each day."



Chronicle photo by Nathyn D. Gibson

Rabbi Michael Stevens stands next to the Hebrew Pentateuch, one of the scrolls saved from the Nazis in Czechoslovakia. The scroll is located at The Temple Beth El where Rabbi Stevens preaches.

Fewer options open to pay for costs of college

Jonathan D. Glater
New York Times

Parents will have to navigate unfamiliar and difficult terrain when it comes time to pay for college this year, with student loan companies in turmoil and banks tightening their standards and raising rates on other types of borrowing.

Lawmakers and the administration are trying to head off any crisis by making sure that "lenders of last resort" stand ready to take the place of companies that have left the federal loan program. And a growing number of colleges have applied to participate in the federal direct loan program, in which students borrow from the government.

But families often use a combination of resources to pay for college, drawing on savings, federal loans, bank loans and home loans to plug the gap between college costs and financial aid.

Even if the government wards off problems in the credit markets and federal student loans are easily accessible, other sources of financing will become less accessible as consumers find themselves stretched thin and lenders get more choosy.

According to a recent New York Times/CBS News poll, 70 percent of parents surveyed were "very concerned" about how they would pay for college; only 6 percent were not concerned.

To ensure continued availability of federal loans, the secretary of the federal Education Department met on Friday with representatives of the state agencies and nonprofit companies that guarantee federal loans on behalf of the government. The goal was to work out how the guarantors would serve as lenders, if necessary. This emergency safety net has never been pressed into widespread use.

Though there is no major problem now, the lending industry is warning of a credit squeeze without action. "I would say there is widespread belief," said Margaret Spellings, the education secretary. "That we will have a real problem, that the lender of last resort or some other solution will have to be used this year."

Last year, students and their parents borrowed nearly $60 billion in federally guaranteed loans, a figure that has grown more than 6 percent annually over the last five years after taking into account inflation. In recent years, the growth rate has declined but may pick up as the economy slows and as other borrowing options fade.

"I want to make sure we are going to do our part, and that students will be able to go to college this fall," Ms. Spelling said.

Lawmakers in Washington have proposed increasing the amounts that students can borrow through federal programs and authorizing the Education Department to purchase federal loans, thereby providing banks with cash to make more loans. The House Education Committee approved legislation this week that would allow dependent students to borrow a total of $31,000 through federal programs to pay for their undergraduate education, up from $23,000 now.

Still, it is difficult to gauge whether a financing problem will emerge later this year for students and, if so, how serious it might be. The disruption in the federal lending program so far has mostly been from borrowers shifting to another lender. Ms. Beaton, for example, expects her $5,000 loan request to eventually be granted. "By the time I get the money, school will probably be over," she said.

Financial aid administrators say few students had been shut out. "I haven't heard anything about any sort of unusual trends so far, not to say that it isn't going to intensify," said Daniel C. Walls, associate vice provost for enrollment management at Emory University in Atlanta. "I suspect there's going to be more negotiating around financial aid this year than any other year that we've experienced."

Admitted students are just now receiving financial aid awards from colleges, and the test will come when tuition payments for the fall term are due, aid administrators say.

"By mid- to late June, certainly July, will be the months that we really begin to understand the relative financial situations of families," said Jean McDonald-Rash, director of financial aid at Rutgers in New Jersey.

Students attending several expensive and wealthy colleges will enjoy expanded financial aid, as those institutions move to replace need-based loans with grants. Harvard and Yale recently announced expansions of aid to families making as much as $150,000, displaying a degree of generosity that few institutions can match.

Some student advocates say lenders are exaggerating the obstacles they face in search of a bailout from Washington.

"Student lenders are trying to hype the current credit crunch to scare Congress into providing them additional subsidies and to discredit last years' hard won higher education reform," said Luke Swarthout of the U.S. Public Interest Research Group in Washington, referring to cuts lawmakers made last year to the subsidy payments to lenders of federal loans.

- Reprinted with the permission of the New York Times

CTIS Connection
Information Technology Services at Purdue University Calumet

Technology Helps Detect Plagiarism

In this new age of instant data transfer is it becoming increasingly easy to copy and paste someone else's work in place of your own. Websites are pulling in thousands of dollars in the selling of term papers, and there are a myriad of places on the web to get information from.

With the onset of this new technology both students and teachers must hold themselves to a higher standard in order not to be compromised. The school honor code states, "I understand that dishonesty in the classroom, through cheating, plagiarism or other dishonest acts, defeats this purpose and disgraces the mission and quality of a Purdue University Calumet education."

In order to ensure we all live up to that standard there are quite a few things that the University does to enforce this code.

Turn It In

The primary program used by the University, Turn It In, allows faculty to check a students' papers against a large database of previously published text. It is the world's leading plagiarism prevention database, and is used by universities all across the country. Faculty can receive more information about the use of this tool by visiting OIT in Gyte 135.

Search Engines

Surprisingly, search engines are becoming more and more useful in the world of plagiarism prevention. They are especially useful for finding out if a student plagiarized a single paragraph from another source as well as for verifying quotes.

Crime and Punishment

As with all crimes, plagiarism does not go unpunished. If a student is caught cheating they can be given disciplinary probation, suspension, fail the assignment, test, paper, or possibly even fail the class entirely. In some cases, the offenses may even warrant expulsion. For further information on the university's discipline policy visit: http://www.calumet.purdue.edu/deanofstudents/typical_sanctions.html. More information is also available in the Student Handbook available at http://www.calumet.purdue.edu/studserv/student-handbook.pdf or a hard copy at the Information Center in the Student Union Library Building or at the Enrollment Services Center in Lawshe 130.

www.calumet.purdue.edu/ctis

Your feedback on our services is always welcome. Please send your comments to Customer Service Center at csc@calumet.purdue.edu.

Police Blotter

04.7.08 - 5:40 p.m. Anderson
Theft
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THE CHRONICLE

Open Interviews

for

Sports Writers
News Writers
Photographers

head on up to sul344h (the 3rd floor of the library building) on the dates and times listed below to become apart of The Chronicle.

Tuesday April 15 @ 3
Wednesday April 16 @ 2

The downfall of Obama

Ryan Metz
Sports Editor

Behind the facade of Sen. Barack Obama's hope and change campaign stands a serious issue lurking its way to his most serious setback: his character.

His wish for change in Washington echoed through his campaign is a compelling argument against a current administration with an appalling approval rating of 30 percent in a recent New York Times poll. Yet can Sen. Obama shake off his filthy alliances to make a legitimate run at the office come this November?

Our character is on display by who we surround ourselves with.

So why does his closest adviser and the woman who sits across from him at the dinner table feel like there is an imaginary Klansman hiding underneath her bed causing all this anguish in her American dream?

The same dream Michelle Obama achieved as she diligently worked her way out of Chicago's struggling South Side to graduating from Princeton University and then earning her Harvard Law Degree.

Not to mention Mrs. Obama's speeches at rallies where her unpatriotic slurs saying, "for the first time in my adult lifetime, I'm really proud of my country." Apparently, she wasn't a big fan of the Civil Rights Act and turns down the volume when Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start the Fire" comes on.

We live in the greatest country in the world.

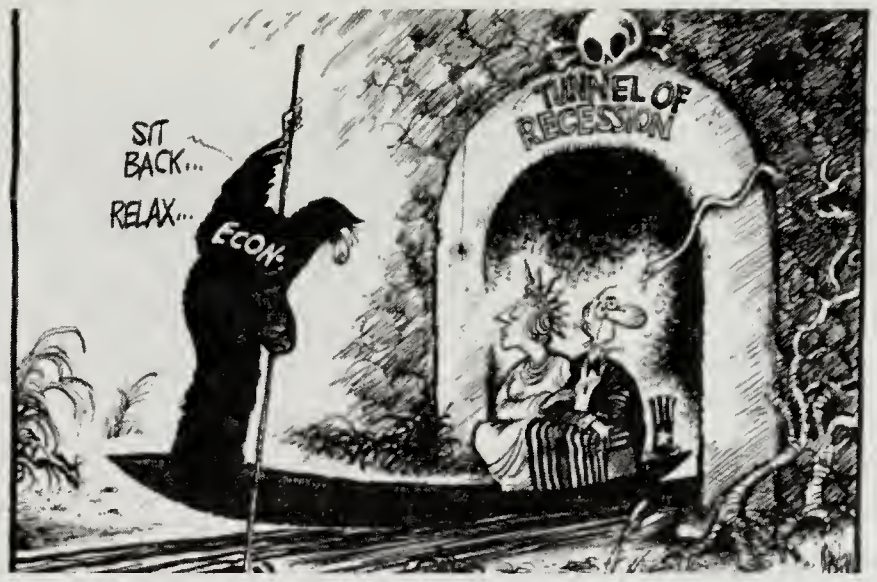
Sen. Obama will not unite this country, but only divide the country in an alarming fashion if he continues to escape with a free hall pass from the media and dodge tough issue questions with his snazzy rhetoric answers.

His mentor Rev. Wright spewed hate talk in his sermons during which Sen. Obama sat through for 20 years. A leader with character would stand up and leave if he heard his pastor's warped views that the U.S. government sought to wage genocide against black communities by creating the AIDS virus.

Sen. Obama's ties to former Weather Underground terrorist Bill Ayers can't be taken lightly either. The radical Underground group was responsible for bombing high profile government buildings in the early '70s, including the Pentagon and the U.S. Capitol. Ayers is a former donor to the Obama campaign and was the same man who uttered this shocking statement on Sep. 11, 2001, "I don't regret setting bombs, I feel we didn't do enough."

It appears Sen. Obama's lack of experience won't be his only detractor come November.

Have feedback? Readers can contact Ryan Metz at chronicle_sports_editor @ yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.



THE CHRONICLE

Volume 28, Issue 13
Spring 2008

Isabel Rodriguez, Editor in Chief
Mike Schaefer, Production Manager
Katie Ramsey, Entertainment Editor
Ryan Metz, Sports Editor
Nathyn D. Gibson, Photo Editor

A tag-free PUC

The issue: Campus graffiti

Our opinion: Campus lacks immediate removal from property

Statements and drawings stretch across the walls of many PUC buildings and bathroom stalls.

Yes, it may be the work of students. And no, it's not something bought by the university or made in class by gifted students to neatly decorate the university.

It's been about three months since graffiti slurs decorated bathroom stalls throughout several bathrooms on campus. The problem was reported, and quickly dissolved once janitors removed the vandalism.

Fast forward weeks later, and a new presence of graffiti is apparent. One example includes words etched into exterior of Porter Hall. The graffiti was quickly noted and reported, yet unlike the first occurrence it remains out on the open for everyone to see.

Failure of removal is just as bad and guilty as those who wrote it.

There are instances where cases have not been reported, and its something that can be quickly noted whether it's by staff or faculty. Or even custodians.

This especially includes graffiti written in bathroom stalls.

It's difficult to comprehend that such graffiti can go unnoticed, when many times it's staring you in the face when relieving yourself on the toilet.

The question remains: how can it go unnoticed by those whose job is to keep these areas clean and tag-free?

It's in some bathrooms of Gyte, CLO, SUL and even the walls. Undoubtedly it's a shame that graffiti can possibly be made by a student. Yet it's also a shame that it remains there.

It took a few days to remove the first case of graffiti on Porter. Let's see how long it takes to remove it this time.

Maybe if it were in Lawshe bathrooms or walls, it could have grabbed the attention of administration a bit more.

Then maybe we would see a more graffiti-free campus.

Letter to the Editor

To Whom It May Concern:

I found an article by Ryan Metz ,"Keep the Ink Off of Your Bodies, to be biased, and elementary. I have been constantly disappointed with the "filler articles" in the school newspaper. I feel as though the school newspaper is only disgraced with such nonsense that could be found in tabloids.

For example, your staff member, Ryan Metz, wrote: The wise words of Vince Vaughn might have put it best in "Wedding Crashers" when he said "Tattoo on the lower back, might as well be a bullseye." I must say, your staff members sound more intelligent when quoting books, experts, or fellow students that share the same opinions, not movies. I would expect movie quotes from a middle school newspaper.

My second example,Ryan Metz wrote: "I would be a hypocrite if I didn't declare that I have, indeed, dated a few women with the typical tats. A few had the tattoo placed parallel to their hip bones and ...well woman parts. And when asked if I liked the little star a few inches below their jean's waist line, I nodded and replied, "Of course, it looks good." But come on, I agreed for reasons that don't need to be explained." In my opinion, he already explained too much, as well as discrediting himself as an honest, trust worthy, reporter, student, and person.

Although this is an opinion article, I believe that their are better opinions and better ways to express opinions. I am highly disappointed with the school newspaper for publishing uneducated filth with no supporting facts.

Sincerely, Miss Liz Ellis
Political science
Sophomore

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in submitted commentaries and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the writers name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better chance of publication.

All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Deadline for submissions is the Friday before the publication.

Letter to the Editor

The Chronicle's non-existent coverage of the Black and Latino Relations Forum that took place Thursday, March 27 is biased and unreflective of the campus paper's mission statement.

On the front page of the March 31 issue is a story covering Hillary Clinton's campaign stop in Hammond. Although her visit may have been historic and important to certain individuals, the Chronicle's coverage failed to offer any information that students could not have acquired from other local media sources.

The Black and Latino forum was sponsored by four campus organizations (the Social Justice Club, Alpha Psi Lambda, Sigma Gamma Rho and Alpha Phi Alpha) and, thus, should have constituted an extremely relevant news story for a student newspaper dedicated to reporting campus events and issues.

Additionally, the content of this forum was very relevant to contemporary society and the student population in general. Topics such as the African Diaspora in Latin America, immigration, job competition and gang violence in our communities were presented and discussed at length. I feel that much progress was made in terms of how members of the two racial groups view each other and their shared experiences of struggle and oppression. It was amazing to witness what can be accomplished when campus groups unite for a common cause.

Estimates place attendance of the event at roughly 60 people-which is quite impressive when one considers the difficulty of attracting students on this campus to a forum in the middle of the day.

The level of attendance and diversity of the participating audience (Black, Latino, White, and Asian) suggests to me that a significant portion of the campus community considers the subject of race relations, whether Black and Latino or otherwise, a pertinent issue that has not been resolved to history.

Michael Hernandez
Junior, political science

Have something to say?

Write a Letter to the Editor. E-mail us at chroncle@ calumet.purdue.edu and be sure to include your name, class, major and a phone number where you can be reached.

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April 14 – 17, 2008

Honoring all PUC Student Employees and future employees!

Games of Skill
Win an iPOD (must show student employee ID) and other prizes for all students.
Mon. April 14 and Tues., April 15 – Noon – 3:30 pm SUL Concourse

~Awards Reception with Refreshments~
Wednesday, April 16 – 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Founders Study – SUL 3rd floor

Wrap Up
DJ Fast Freddy, Pizza and Appreciation Cake
Thursday, April 17 – Calumet Falls, SUL Building
Noon – 2:30 pm

Come join the festivities! Hosted by Career Services/Student Employment

What Can You Do with an LASS Degree?

The School of
Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
(LASS)
Invites You to the

4th Annual
Career Night
Tuesday, April 22, 2008 ♦ 5 pm–7 pm
Alumni Hall
(3rd floor of SUL)

Alumni from the LASS Departments will be available to speak with students about careers and opportunities in the fields within Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Stop by to find out what you can do with your LASS Degree

- English & Philosophy
- Behavioral Sciences
- History & Political Science
- Foreign Languages & Literature
- Communication & Creative Arts

PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET

Too young to drink? Try hookah

myspace.com

Hookah Lounge, located in Hobart, offers a wide variety of smoking devices and tobacco in a relaxing enviroment, featuring entertainment including belly dancers and jazz bands.

Stephanie Powers
Chronicle Correspondent

Finding something entertaining to do in the Region can be difficult. For those 21 and over, bars are the usual place of choice. For those who prefer not to spend time in a bar or are underaged the choices for entertainment are slim. The Region does offer one alternative: Hookah lounges.

The Hookah Lounge, located in Hobart, offers a relaxing atmosphere with warm colors, pictures of regular customers and tie-dyed booths. There is entertainment most evenings including a belly dancer once a week, DJs and jazz bands.

With over 70 flavors of Shisha (tobacco) to choose from, there is something for everyone. New flavors will also be added, including chocolate. Grape, strawberry, and mint are a few of the flavors offered on the premium menu. Premium flavors are only $11.99. Exotic flavors such as Irish cream and chocolate mint are $15.99. The Shisha has a full flavor; it's not watered down like some of the other places.

As many as four people can smoke from one hookah. Flavor shots can be added for $3.99 to create a mixed flavor. Refills are only $4.99. The lounge offers specials on the nights of performances and announce half-price refills during different points of the performance.

Sultan's Café in Griffith and Aladdin Pita in Merrillville also offers hookah. Both of these locations have more of a restaurant atmosphere with plain booths and tables. The prices are higher then those of the Hookah Lounge, but offer full restaurant service.

Both these locations have a smaller Shisha flavor menu. Prices for a regular hookah start at $10.99 for both but offer half the amount of flavors the Hookah Lounge does and the flavor is not as strong. Sultan's Café and Aladdin Pita offers a full menu of Middle-Eastern style cuisine. Prices for sandwiches range from $5-$7. Meals range from $11-$14. The atmosphere at both locations is quieter than The Hookah Lounge.

Both Aladdin Pita and Sultan Café are excellent choices for enjoying a meal with friends and smoking a hookah afterwards. If a toned down atmosphere is desired Sultan's and Aladdin are the places to go. However, The Hookah Lounge is the place to be for a full-flavored hookah, a vibrant atmosphere and live entertainment.

Break Las Vegas with '21'

Mark Farner
Correspondent

Most gamblers dream of breaking Las Vegas. In "21," a group of players set out to do just that.

And when Vegas breaks them, they discover cheating isn't as easy as they thought it would be.

Ben Campbell (Jim Sturgess) plays a game of blackjack in disguise. He's not gambling, though. He's counting cards.

Ben is part of a team that employs secret signals and gestures to alert each other. When Ben gets the sign to get out of there, he's suddenly running for his life.

The movie shifts to the beginning of the story. Ben has an interview at Harvard Medical School, and he has outstanding credentials at M.I.T. along with excellent recommendations and impressive awards. Ben is told he cannot get the scholarship he needs to get into Harvard if he isn't "dazzling" enough.

When Ben solves a complex problem in class, he draws attention from his professor Mickey Rosa (Kevin Spacey). Mickey invites Ben to join a blackjack team.

Reluctant at first, Ben is convinced by Jill Taylor (Kate Bosworth) to become a member of the blackjack team. He's trained and after a test of his ability under pressure, the team is off to Las Vegas. In the first trip, Ben makes over $10,000. As the trips to Vegas continue, he saves up the money for Harvard. He constantly refers to the card-counting operation as a means to an end. Before long, greed and arrogance engulf the team and their card–counting operation begins to fall apart.

The blackjack team consists of five different characters, each with their own quirks, but Ben and Jill are the only two with any substance. Ben is the nice guy who finishes last, while Jill grew up playing the game with her father. The other characters are paper thin, but the actors and actresses entertain nonetheless. There's the wisecracking cleptomaniac Choi (Aaron Yoo),Kianna (Liza Lapira) with her defining attribute – playing the confused foreigner as she scouts easy-to-beat tables and the jealous Jimmy Fisher (Jacob Pitts). Jimmy was the top player before Ben Campbell came along. His jealousy wastes time in becoming a drag on the team rather than an asset.

"21" is based on the book "Bringing Down the House: The Inside Story of Six M.I.T. Students Who Took Vegas for Millions" by Ben Mezrich. This movie adaptation may delight the book's fans or drive them into rabid fits of rage with its inaccuracies. Those who love a movie about high stakes and cheating the system may get just what they're looking for.

4/5 Overall Stars

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The School of Technology Day is open to high school students, current university students, faculty, and industry professionals.
On display will be exciting opportunities and current research in the fields of :
• Computer Graphics Technology
• Computer Information Technology
• Construction Management & Engineering Technologies
• Electrical & Computer Engineering Technology
• Industrial Engineering Technology
• Mechanical Engineering Technology
• Organizational Leadership & Supervision
High School Students (Bring your Parents!)
This is a great opportunity to see the School of Technology's programs up close and personal. Talk with upperclassmen about their senior projects that will be on display. Learn about our majors and the many employment possibilities they bring. Discuss your future educational and career goals with faculty and academic advisors. Also, find out about our scholarships, and dual credit classes you can take at your high school.
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Showdown, graphically speaking

Sean Davis
Staff Writer

As far as video cards go for home PCs, no one has beat nVidia.

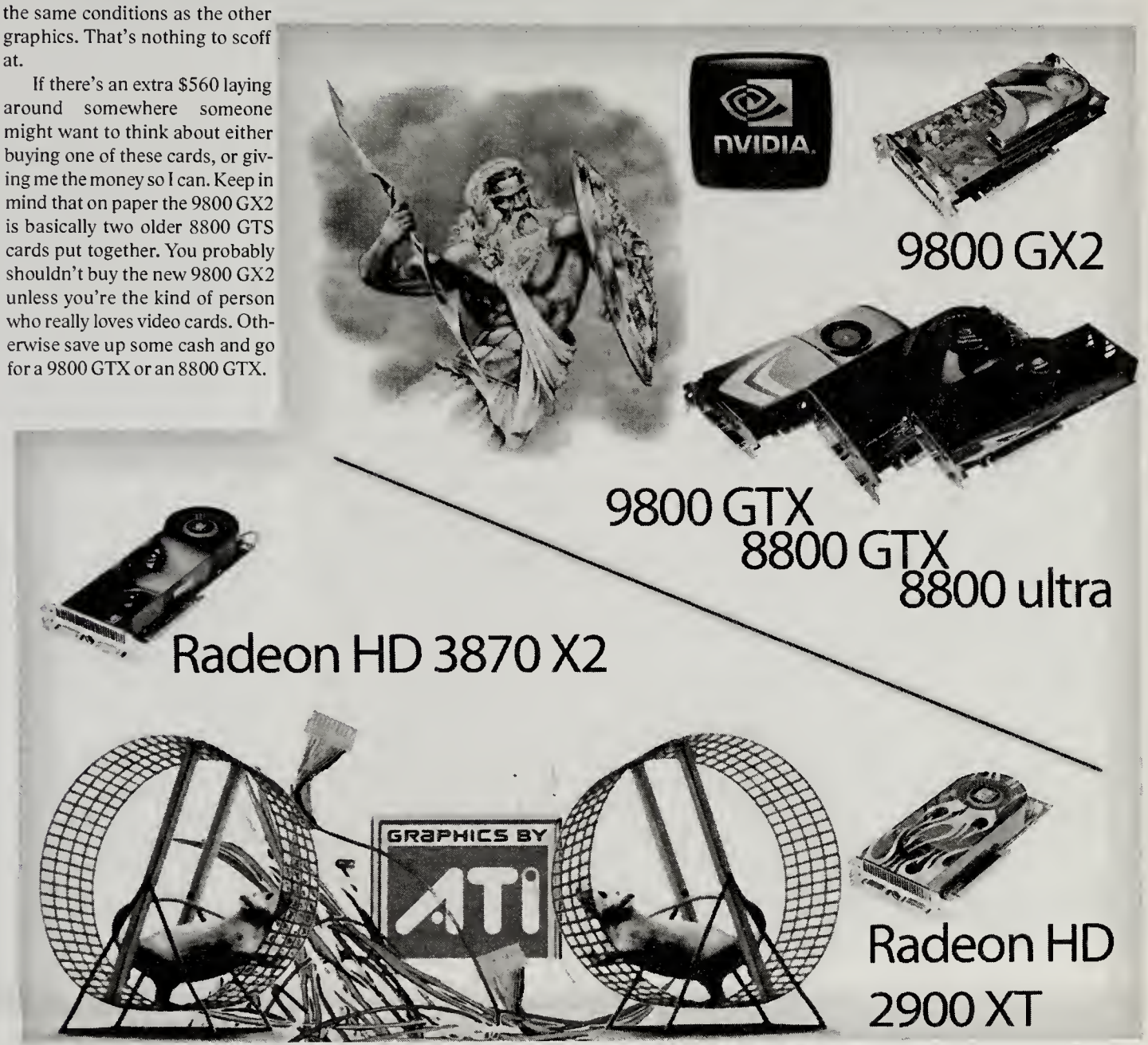
Of course, the only competitor nVidia has is ATI. They aren't coming close to what nVidia has to offer when balancing price with performance. ATI tried really hard with its Radeon HD 3870 X2's (which were on the top of the gaming graphics hill in January) but it wasn't meant to be.

Take, for example, the newly released 9800 series from nVidia. The 9800 GTX is roughly 7 percent better – performance wise – than last years 8800 GTX (nVidia). The odd part is that the new 9800 GTX costs about $40 less than the 8800 GTX at $300. Not only that but last year's best card, the 8800 Ultra (nVidia), is almost on par for performance with the 9800 GTX. It still costs over $500.

Keeping all this in mind, let's compare what ATI has to offer with its Radeon HD series. The Radeon HD 3870 X2 was pretty awesome when it was released. It boasted about 27 frames per second when running Crysis at a 1600x1200 resolution. It's not too shabby. Compare that with the 8800 Ultra's 25 FPS under the same conditions. The Radeon HD 3870 X2 costs about $400.

Let's not forget about the new king of the hill, nVidia's 9800 GX2. It reached 42.5 FPS under the same conditions as the other graphics. That's nothing to scoff at.

If there's an extra $560 laying around somewhere someone might want to think about either buying one of these cards, or giving me the money so I can. Keep in mind that on paper the 9800 GX2 is basically two older 8800 GTS cards put together. You probably shouldn't buy the new 9800 GX2 unless you're the kind of person who really loves video cards. Otherwise save up some cash and go for a 9800 GTX or an 8800 GTX.



Spring Flowers

ANEMONE	CROCUS	PRAIRIE ROSE
BLUEBELLS	DAFFODILS	SHOOTING STAR
BUTTERCUPS	FORGET ME NOTS	SNOWDROPS
COLUMBINE	GLORY OF THE SNOW	SPRING BEAUTY
NARCISSUS	LADYS SLIPPER	TULIPS
PHLOX	LILY	VIOLETS
POPPY	MARSH MARIGOLD	MAY APPLE
HYACINTH	IRIS	MAY FLOWERS
		JACK IN THE PULPIT

V P R M K Z O Y D S M V E O P A
M S S A M D Y W H Z K S N W Z F
W B U Y A V I O L E T S E C A D
B R S A Y C M N X O L H P R H A
L A S P F M Y S N O W D R O P S
U T I P L U P E H T N I K C A J
E S C L O Q M H L E D L B U D K
B G R E W T H T G I L A U S C S
E N A P E N Y F Z E L D T A O L
L I N G R H A O U N L Y T P L I
L T R W S C C Y P O N S E Y U D
S O D L O G I R A M H S R A M O
F O P V G Z N O Z E F L C U B F
W H B F I M T L Q N H I U Y I F
N S G I L R H G C A S P P P N A
M Y T U A E B G N I R P S P E D
I P R A I R I E R O S E Y O D F
K S P I L U T I N V L R P P C M

Sudoku hard

	7	6	9					8
8						9	3	
							4	
6		7	5					
5	2				4			
9			6					2
7	4				6			5
	6			4	7	3		
	1					7		4

Hammond Weather

Monday
April 14
Sunny
46°/32°

Tuesday
April 15
Mostly Sunny
55°/42°

Wednesday
April 16
Sunny / Windy
61°/49°

Thursday
April 17
Partly Cloudy
64°/49°

Friday
April 18
Few Showers
62°/45°

Saturday
April 19
Showers
55°/44°

Sunday
April 20
Showers
57°/47°

For daily forecasts, visit pucchronicle.com

Wanted: Grant Writer - Our Family Center (Federal Work Study)
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Wanted: Proctor
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Wanted: Computer Lab Teacher - Our Family Center (Federal Work Study)
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Wanted: Assistant Counselor Intern - Our Family Center (Federal Work Study)
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Wanted: Student Aid - Research & Technical Info (Federal Work Study Only)
One opening. Schedule/Hours/Wage TBA. Apply online thru CareerTrax or visit Student Employment in SUL 349. CareerTrax Job ID:7429.

Wanted: General Secretary/Business Management Position - Hammond Innovation Center (Federal work Study)
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Wanted: Reading & Math Tutor/Mentor - Our Family Center (Federal Work Study Only or Internship Only)
One opening. Work schedule/wage/salary TBA. 12-18 hours per week. Apply online through CareerTrax or visit Student Employment in SUL 349. CareerTrax Job ID: 6701.

Wanted: Office Clerk- New Family Learning Center (Federal Work Study Only or Non Federal Work Study)
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Wanted: Fitness and Recreation (Federal Work Study only)
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Wanted: Child/Youth Counselor – Our Family Center (Federal Work Study only)
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Wanted: Mathematics and Lab Sciencc Instructor
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2nd Coming wins despite D

Chronicle photo by Mike Schaefer

New Style team member Audric Warren, a PUC sports trainer dribbles down the court.

Isabel Rodriguez
Editor in Chief

Referees constantly called fouls during an intense game between rivals 2nd Coming and New Style.

Both intramural basketball teams kept a close lead during the Sunday game, but New Style couldn't keep up their defense and lost to 2nd Coming 44-40.

"It definitely wasn't good. I mean, we played together as a team but [there] definitely wasn't good defense," Patrick Kriskol of New Style said.

And 2nd Coming took advantage of their rival's weak defense.

Both teams started the first half out strong, with 2nd Coming quickly catching up to New Style with few rebounds and brought them to 18-14.

But New Style gained momentum and took the lead with free throws and closed the second half with 20-25.

Fouls immediately plagued the second half, with players trying to up their defense. Players hit the floor at fast momentum to grab rebounds, and those watching quickly took noticed.

"This ain't football boy," one standerby said.

New Style maintained their close win with a 7-point lead and 2 rebounds by member Audric Warren but quickly lost it.

Victory was close for either team with 10 minutes left and each tied at 30-30.

The ball was rebounded by 2nd coming after a missed lay-up by New Style and they never looked back. 2nd Coming took the lead by one point, 41-40, with 45 seconds left on the clock and landed their win with four extra points.

"Yeah, we got the win, but we needed rebounds and not take the quick shots," 2nd Coming member Kory Allen said.

The intramural basketball playoffs begin on April 20, with 16 of the 26 teams advancing into the playoffs which conclude on May 4.

Intramurals schedule this week:

Monday: Soccer - Rec Center Gym
Tuesday: Bowling - Highland Plaza Lanes
Wednesday: Ultimate Frisbee - 6:30 p.m. (Field between Lawshe Hall and Gyte Building)
Wednesday: Team Bench Press Contest - 7 p.m. Rec Center Gym
Thursday: Volleyball - Rec Center Gym
Sunday: Basketball - Rec Center Gym

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deadline is April 18, 2008

Ryan Metz's

Weekly High Five

Athletes who should run for office

1 Peyton Manning

The NFL's most marketable player would be a sure-thing for politics if you like six-five, 230-pound quarterbacks with laser rocket arms. His leadership and confident demeanor would serve well in a crisis, and his audibles to his vice president, much like his pre-snap routine waving his hands demonstratively would be interesting as well.

2 Shaquille O'Neal

The 325-pound, 7-footer would be an imposing figure in the Oval Office. His background in law enforcement, serving as a Miami Beach reserve officer, would be an addition to the "The Big Aristotle's" appeal. America would have to hope that a free-throw contest doesn't break out between world leaders, however.

3 Derek Jeter

Serving as Mr. Captain on America's most successful franchise would thrust him into the spotlight with ease. His clutch tactics at crucial times moments would provide a natural leader of the Free World. An added bonus would be the women who could potentially be first wives, since Jeter has dated Mariah Carey, Jessica Biel and Jessica Alba.

4 Lance Armstrong

Overcoming odds to survive cancer and winning the Tour de France seven consecutive times would be a positive for this Texas native, who happens to be friends with President Bush and has gone mountain biking with him at Bush's ranch in Texas. The negatives would include his allegation of steroid use, but what politician doesn't have to deny certain mischief.

5 Brett Favre

Favre would bring a new dress code to the White House: a three-day shadow beard and a nice pair of Wranglers. The charismatic 38-year-old happens to have a little spare time now that his playing career is over. His reliability will never be in question as he showed up 253 consecutive starts as the starting quarterback.

Comeback or choke?

Jeremy Homan
Assistant Sports Editor

Still a week after one of the greatest national championship games in recent history, there is still debate, whether Kansas made a great comeback or if Memphis choked.

It's plain and simple. Memphis choked.

Kansas did all the right things to end up winning that game, but had Memphis done what they had to do, they would be national champs.

The Tigers had a nine-point lead with 2:12 left and couldn't seal the deal.

Their inability to sink free throws finally domed them. So much for their coach John Calipari's statements about his team making them when it counts.His team choked and he did an even worse job at coaching the game at the end. Calipari should have called a timeout after they sank the free throw to push the lead to three.

Instead he let Kansas storm down the court and Mario Chalmers hit a three to tie. Even after the three, Calipari failed to call timeout and have some type of strategy for the last two seconds.

The way Memphis handled the end of that game, they deserved to lose. And they will go down as choking that game away.

It may go down as one of the biggest chokes in sports history. It won't compare to some of the great chokes like the 2004 Yankees in the ALCS or the Cubs in the 2003 NLCS, or even the 1986 Mets, but it will be a top candidate.

Memphis will be remembered for the choke and we will see the now famous picture from the cover of Sports Illustrated of Chalmers in mid-air shooting the three. And fittingly titled, "Mario's Miracle."

Kansas finally got the monkey off their back, I went to the Final Four and won a National Championship.

Memphis won't be remembered for their NCAA record 38 wins, but they will be remembered for their poor free-throw shooting and choking with the game on the line.

For a team most people thought they didn't belong, Memphis showed they shouldn't have been there.

Have feedback? Readers can contact Jeremy Homan at assistant_sports_editor@yahoo.com or call 989-2547

National Lampoon Sports Minute

Tiger Woods signed Chevron to be the new title sponsor of his holiday tournament. The winner will now have a choice between $5 million or a tank of super unleaded.

Pacman Jones is closer to signing with Dallas. He's so close, the Cowboys cheerleaders are now wearing raincoats.

Brett Favre suggested he may return to the Green Bay Packers, but only if Aaron Rodgers goes down with an injury. In a related story, John Madden was spotted atop Rodgers' staircase with hundreds of tiny marbles.

Michael Vick is reportedly playing quarterback for his prison football team. It's certainly preferable to playing tight end.

And Barack Obama bowled a 37 this week. A politician hasn't spent that much time in the gutter since Elliot Spitzer.

Suspended NASCAR driver Aaron Fike admitted that he shot up heroin on some race days. The news shocked the NASCAR world, since their drug of choice is usually Schlitz. Or meth.

Andy Roddick is planning to marry 20-year-old model Brooklyn Decker. Becareful Andy - just when you really grow to love her, she'll move across the country and become Los Angeles Decker.

NBC is close to a deal to cover the NHL next season. With a body bag.

Written by Steve Hofstetter, Keith Alberstadt, Adam Hofstetter, Cody Marley, Ryan Murphy, Elliot Steingart, and Chris Strait

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A friendly game of ultimate frisbee

Chronicle photo by Rick Balutewicz

Henry Muro, a freshman civil engineering major, goes up to catch the frisbee, while being guarded by Adam Taylor, a junior fitness management major. Intramural frisbee is played on Wednesdays between Lawshe Hall and the Gyte building.

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Journeyman Nourie leads PUC baseball

Chronicle archive photo

The PUC baseball team started in the spring led by coach Jon Nourie who has been well traveled through different baseball teams, including being drafted by the Cubs out of high school.

Brandon Thomas
Senior Staff Writer

Jon Nourie played professional baseball but injury and inevitable circumstances kept him from making it to the major leagues.

Nourie played almost all his life. He still plays today, as a player coach for the PUC Club Baseball Team.

PUC is the most recent stop for the traveled ballplayer. He bounced around baseball and the Midwest since graduating from Munster High School in 2000, playing at three colleges and four professional teams as a left-handed pitcher.

The Chicago Cubs drafted Nourie in his senior year. He needed the signature of a parent, as a 17-year-old, to accept the rookie-league contract with a $150,000 signing bonus and five years at any college free. Nourie's mother, Patricia, is a teacher and wanted him to go to college first.

"Maybe I shouldn't have been so adamant about him going to school," Patricia said. "He had a dream that most boys have and he had an opportunity."

Nourie took a full scholarship to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo where he majored in engineering and played baseball. He enjoyed the college experience away from home, but with baseball and 200 to 300 level courses, his grades dropped.

"It was definitely a good engineering school, but I felt that I would end up doing better at a different college and be able to bring my grades up a little bit too," Nourie said.

He packed his belongings and moved back in with his parents to attend South Suburban College in South Holland, Ill, picking up his associate degree in electrical engineering.

South Suburban has a nationally renowned college baseball program with many championships and he liked it there.

Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau was the next stop. Nourie accepted a full scholarship. He played baseball for a year before bone spurs in his elbow showed up on an x-ray. His doctor, a bone spur specialist, said it was the worst arm he had ever seen. He missed most of his senior season.

Nourie was done with Independent League Baseball. He worked at the White Sox Academy in Griffith.

The same place the PUC Baseball Club trained during the winter of 2006-07. He became an assistant coach. David Funk, last season's head coach, left after the 2007 season and Nourie took over. He coaches today at age 25.

For an extended version of this article visit:
pucchronicle.com

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